

The Oologah Informer

October 18th, 2015

Baptism By Wayne Brewer

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Service Times

Sunday

Bible Class: 9:30 A.M.
Worship: 10:30 A.M. & 5 P.M.

Wednesday

Bible Study: 7 P.M.

Preacher:

Russ Earl

AM Sermon:

What does the Bible say about
Repentance? (Romans 6:12-13)

PM Sermon:

What faith looks like (John 6:38)

Sunday AM Bible Class:

R. Earl

Wednesday Bible Class:

John 8:17 – R. Earl

In SEARCH of the Lord's Way

Tulsa KWHB-47

Sunday mornings at 7:30 am

Oologah Internet RadioPrograms

Vance' Program on Wednesdays
@ 6:30pm & Thursdays @ 6:30am

LIVE broadcast on Mondays @ 5pm

Visit www.tgrn.org to listen or visit
www.oologahradio.org for more info.

If one were to investigate how various denominations view baptism, one would find as many different beliefs as there are denominations. While it might be interesting to research, a far more profitable study would concern what the church of the first century, or New Testament, believed and practiced.

The New Testament teaches that baptism is the immersion of a person completely under water. The word “baptize” is a transliteration of the Greek word “baptizo” which means “to dip, plunge, or immerse” according to Greek word scholars like Joseph Henry Thayer, W. E. Vine, Robert Young, Archibald Thomas Robertson and many others.

The meaning of the word “baptism” can also be known by the fact that baptism in the New Testament always took place where there was plenty of water. Jesus was baptized in the Jordan River (*Mark 1:4-5*) where there was plenty of water for immersion. The reason given for the place where John baptized people was “*because there was much water there*” (*John 3:23*). As the gospel preacher Philip studied the scripture with a man from Ethiopia, the Ethiopian, after understanding what he needed to do said, “*See, here is water, what doth hinder me from being baptized*” (*Acts 8:36*)? The impact of that question is seen when one considers that after being taught he was looking for a place where he could be immersed completely under water.

As Paul wrote to the Romans, he reminded them what had taken place in baptism. Their burial in water and coming up from the water united them with the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus, as Jesus had been buried in the ground and had come forth alive. Paul writes, “*Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death, that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life*” (*Romans 6:4*).

Not only does the New Testament teach how to be baptized, by immersion, but it also teaches us the purpose of baptism. Jesus taught, “*He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved...*” (*Mark 16:16*). A person is baptized for the purpose of being saved, as Jesus said, and not because one is already saved. As Peter was preaching on the day of Pentecost in the city of Jerusalem, he told them that in crucifying Jesus, they had crucified the “*Lord and Christ*” (*Acts 2:36*), and the hearers asked, “*what shall we do*” (*Acts 2:37*)? Peter responded, “*Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins...*” (*Acts 2:38*). They needed to be baptized in order to receive the remission or forgiveness of sins. Saul, later called Paul, was instructed to “*arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins...*” (*Acts 22:16*).

One who believes in Jesus, repents of their sins, confesses Jesus as the Son of God is ready to be baptized (*Mark 16:16, Acts*

2:38, *Acts 22:16*). Being baptized in this way and for these purposes is based upon one's faith in Jesus, a trust in God, and a confidence in the word and promises of God. If you need to obey the plan of salvation that God has set forth in the New Testament, we are ready to assist you in that.